

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff

v.

ROWLAND MARCUS ANDRADE,

Defendant

CASE No. 3:20-cr-00249-RS-1

**DECLARATION OF JOHN PEARCE
IN SUPPORT OF MOTION OF
ADMINISTRATIVE RELIEF TO
EXTEND SURRENDER DATE AND
NINTH CIRCUIT UPDATE**

Judge: Hon. Richard Seeborg

EXHIBIT - B

DECLARATION OF JOHN M. PEARCE

John M. Pierce (Bar No. 250443)
jpierce@johnpiercelaw.com
JOHN PIERCE LAW P.C.
21550 Oxnard Street, 3rd Floor
Woodland Hills, CA 91367
Tel. (321) 961-1848

Attorneys for Defendant
ROWLAND MARCUS ANDRADE

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

ROWLAND MARCUS ANDRADE,

Defendant.

Case No. 3:20-CR-00249-RS

**DECLARATION OF JOHN PIERCE IN
SUPPORT OF ADMINISTRATIVE
RELIEF TO EXTEND SELF-
SURRENDER DATE**

Judge: Hon. Richard Seeborg

**DECLARATION OF JOHN M. PIERCE IN SUPPORT OF ADMINISTRATIVE RELIEF TO
EXTEND SELF-SURRENDER DATE MOTION**

This declaration incorporates by reference all the facts set forth in the previous declaration as set forth in docket number 788-1. I John M. Pierce declare as follows:

1. I am counsel of record for Defendant Rowland Marcus Andrade in the above-entitled action and submit this declaration based on personal knowledge obtained through my direct representation of Mr. Andrade, review of relevant case materials, and communications with him and his medical providers. If called as a witness, I could

1 and would testify competently thereto.

- 2 2. Mr. Andrade's left ankle surgery is a Dwyer osteotomy with anterior capsulotomy and
3 osteophyte excision to correct a high-arched (cavovarus) foot deformity and address
4 associated structural problems.
- 5 3. With the help of his endocrinologist, Mr. Andrade was able to lower his A1C from 8.7
6 to 6.9 and has now been given a surgery date of January 26, 2026.
- 7 4. I reviewed documentation confirming that his doctors believe he suffers from a
8 chronic case of Angina Pectoris, and I was informed that he underwent a 2D
9 echocardiogram. Mr. Andrade is currently awaiting the test results.
- 10 5. I have provided the government and the probation department with Mr. Andrade's
11 medical records relating to the planned Dwyer osteotomy with anterior capsulotomy
12 and osteophyte excision surgery appointment on January 26, 2026, as well as records
13 addressing his other ankle conditions and report surrounding the Angina Pectoris issue
14 which was determined from a Chart Review. The medical report included the results
15 of a drug test where Andrade came back negative.
- 16 6. Mr. Andrade made multiple attempts to schedule his left-ankle surgery in November
17 but was unable to do so because his A1C level was not yet low enough, as confirmed
18 by the medical records provided to the government. The doctors allowed Mr. Andrade
19 to take multiple A1C tests within a 45-day period in order to meet the medical criteria
20 necessary to schedule his surgery. While A1C tests are typically performed every 90
21 to 120 days, the doctors made an exception due to the urgency of his situation,
22 ensuring that his blood sugar levels were sufficiently controlled so that he could
23
24
25
26

1 proceed with scheduling his surgery as soon as possible. December was also
2 unavailable because the surgical schedule was already full; at the Veterans
3 Administration (VA), orthopedic surgeons operate only on Wednesdays, as they spend
4 the remainder of their time at other hospitals.

- 5
- 6 7. Newly retained counsel will require sufficient time to review the extensive record,
7 assess prior work product, and work closely with Mr. Andrade to understand the
8 factual, technical, constitutional, forfeiture, and financial issues in this case. Mr.
9 Andrade's active participation is essential to interpreting trial evidence, coded witness
10 communications, and voluminous financial and technical records, including the
11 forfeiture and restitution materials contained in the docket.
- 12
- 13 8. By way of example, a government witness connected to Count One of the wire fraud
14 charges gave inconsistent accounts of how he learned about BlockBits Capital—
15 testifying at trial that the information came through his firm, Tenaya Capital, while
16 previously telling the FBI that he learned of it during a chance meeting on an airplane.
17 Similar complexities arise in the forfeiture proceedings, where understanding which
18 entities operated as Abramoff proxy companies and how funds moved among related
19 parties—including entities such as Watley Group, Landfair Capital, Sugar Mountain
20 Holding, and Worldwide Financial—requires Mr. Andrade's firsthand knowledge.
- 21
- 22 9. Premature surrender would significantly impair counsel's ability to prepare appellate
23 and forfeiture filings, create procedural inefficiencies, and prejudice Mr. Andrade's
24 appellate rights. Without his direct involvement, newly retained counsel would be
25 forced to reconstruct intricate relationships and financial transactions in a compressed
26

1 timeframe, increasing the likelihood of delay, added expense, and ineffective
2 representation.

3 10. Mr. Andrade is not a flight risk. The Probation Office determined that Mr. Andrade
4 was not a flight risk and recommended that he be allowed to self-surrender (which of
5 course would occur after both his conviction and sentencing). *See* ECF 706 at 45. Mr.
6 Andrade was indicted in June 2020 and has appeared at all judicial proceedings
7 requiring his appearance since that date and still continues actively working on his
8 case on a day to day basis.

9
10 11. Mr. Andrade even had communications with the probation department in trying to
11 plan his self-surrender—further exhibiting self-initiative and compliance with the
12 Court’s orders. Mr. Andrade always has fully complied with the terms of his pretrial
13 and post-sentencing release and when in doubt about anything, he seeks written
14 guidance from attorneys and if still not sure, he seeks permission from the Court. For
15 example, he asked the 9th circuit for permission to sell stock while requesting to place
16 monies with the Court pending his appeal. A person whose is a flight risk or danger,
17 just does not do that.

18
19 12. Andrade holds an ownership interest in his home, jointly with his wife, as well as
20 joint-stock in biometric-based, patent-protected intellectual property he developed in
21 2015. These assets have the potential joint value in the tens of millions, if not
22 hundreds of millions, of dollars. Individually, these assets could be sufficient to satisfy
23 the full amount of the forfeiture judgment.

24
25 13. If Mr. Andrade were to flee — which he will not — he would risk losing his interest in
26

1 all of his assets, including those jointly held with his wife and children. Such an action
2 would have devastating consequences for his family. Not only financially, but his two
3 young daughters, ages 6 and 10, would endure significant emotional strain and would
4 be further traumatized by either his incarceration or flight. Mr. Andrade is deeply
5 committed to his family and would never take any action that would endanger their
6 mental state or their well-being.
7

8 14. Given his irreplaceable role as a father, the significant financial stake he would forfeit
9 if he fled, his non-dangerous status, and his continued active engagement in his
10 defense, the Court should recognize that these factors—among many others—strongly
11 support Mr. Andrade will not flee and isn't a threat to society.
12

13 15. Andrade continues to meet all supervision and reporting obligations. Mr. Andrade also
14 consents to reasonable temporary conditions of release during the extension period,
15 including GPS or home-detention monitoring if the Court or Probation deems it
16 necessary.
17

18 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States that the foregoing is
19 true and correct. Executed on December 16, 2025.
20

21 

22 /s/ John M. Pearce
23
24
25
26